i.e. they would be issued rail travel coupon books at 25% concession in First Class and 50% concession in Second/ Sleeper Class for travel upto 2500 Kms. per month on bonafide professional work, if residing within 25 Kms. of the concerned District Headquarter. Those who possess first class coupon books are also entitled to purchase tickets for airconditioned classes within the limits prescribed for First Class. This facility will come into effect from 15.08.1997.

[English]

Shifting of Electrification Office

2506. DR. M. JAGANNATH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to shift the railway electrification office from Vijayawada;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether South Central Railways trade unions are agitating for retaining of the electrification office at Vijayawada; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, the electrification work of Vijayawada-Vishakhapatnam section has since been completed. Consequently, the work load of the project has got reduced considerably and the project office at Vijayawada has to be operated at a reduced level consistment with the work load. Representations have been received from S.C. Railway Trade Unions, and efforts are being made to minimise disturbance to the existing staff.

[Translation]

Installation of H.P.T. in the country

2507. KUMARI UMA BHARATI :
SHRI PRABHU DAYAL KATHERIA:
SHRI ANAND RATNA MAURYA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal to install High power transmitters within the present frame work during the Ninth Five Year Plan in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the estimated expenditure likely to incur on it;

(d) the number of persons likely to be benefited from this scheme; and

(e) the target fixed for installing transmitters during Ninth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) to (e) While the Ninth Plan proposals of Doordarshan have not yet been approved, sixteen High Power TV Transmitter (HPT) projects of varying power are presently under implementation in the country. The requisite details are given in the attached statement. The total approved capital cost of the sixteen HPT projects presently under implementation is Rs. 105.33 crores. Whereas a High Power (10KW-VHF) TV Transmitter is expected to provide TV service to a population residing within a radial distance of 120 km., the HPTs operating on 5KW-UHF/1KW-VHF power are expected to provide TV service upto a radial distance of 60 km. The above coverage ranges are inclusive of fringe service areas where elevated antenna and boosters are required for receiving satisfactory service.

Statement

List of High Power TV transmitter projects of varying power presently under implementation in the country

Type of Transmitter	Power of Transmitter	Location
(i) HPTs(VHF)	10 KW-permanent set ups	Rajamundry, Bhuj, Calicut, Barmer.
(ii) HPTs (VHF)	10 KW	Baleshwar, Sambalpur, Fazilka, Gulbarga, Jodhpur, Mussoorie (DD 2).
(iii) HPT (VHF)	1 KW	Hyderabad (DD2) Bangalore (DD2) Hassan, Churanchandpur, Banda
(iv) HPT (UHF)	5 KW	Kathua

[English]

Dispute Regarding Claim in Power Project

2508. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any dispute between Rajasthan, Haryana & Punjab regarding claim in power projects of Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government contemplating for the formation of a National Policy;

(d) if so, the Government are planning to give relief to affected states; and

(e) whether the Government contemplating to allocate any additional power from Central Projects on firm basis, in terms of the agreement dated 10.5. 1984?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (e) An agreement was reached among Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and the Central Government on 10.5.1984 for making a reference to the Supreme Court on the question of entitlement of Haryana and Rajasthan to a share in the power generated in the Anandpur Sahib Hydel Project, Mukerian Hydel Project, Thein Dam Project, Upper Bari Doab Canal (UBDC) Stage-II and Shahpur Kandi Hydel Scheme; and, in the case of there being such an entitlement to determine the share of each State.

Before seeking the approval of the Government for such a reference being made to the Supreme Court, it was considered desirable by the Ministry of Water Resources that the issues involved should be settled amicably through discussion and consultation with the concerned States. The issues involved have since been discussed in several inter-State meetings convened in the Ministry of Water Resources.

Since the concerned States have divergent views in the matter, the Ministry of Home Affairs was requested to place the matter before the Northern Zonal Council so as to arrive at a mutually acceptable solution and to enable the Ministry of Power to proceed further in the matter.

The allocation of power from the "unallocated quota" kept at the disposal of the Central Government is periodically reviewed in view the overall power supply position in the Northern Region. After such a review, the following allocations from the "unallocated quota" to different states w.e.f. 1.6.1997 has been decided :

Delhi	30%
Haryana	15%
J&K	5%
Punjab	20%
Rajasthan	15%
Uttar Pradesh	15%

The power supply position in Rajasthan seems to be satisfactory. During 1997-98 (April-June. 1997) the energy requirement of Rajasthan was 4780 MU against which energy availability was 4704 MU. This represents an energy shortage of 1.6% only as against the average energy shortage 5.7% in the Northern Region and 12.1% at All India level. Further, to tide over the energy shortages in Rajasthan the following additional allocations have been made to Rajasthan.

(i) 36 MW from allocated share of UP in Unchahar TPS reallocated to RSEB with effect from 25.6.1997

(ii) 50 MW from allocated share of UP in Dadri Gas Station reallocated to RSEB from 25.6.1997.

Assessment of Manpower

2509. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have realistically assessed manpower requirements to handle the fast incresing work load and diversification in postal/telecom service;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the projection of the manpower for the next Five Years;

(d) whether the Government have not taken any action for recruitment of manpower required, inspite of the mounting pressure of postal/telecom/Unions/federations;

(e) if so, the present status of the proposal for creation of new posts and when it is likely to be implemented; and

(f) the estimates of vacancies likely to be available in postal and telecommunications department during 1997-98, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) :

In respect of Department of Posts

(a) Assessment of manpower is a continuous process and such assessments are made at the prescribed intervals in respect of individual offices.

(b) At the number of offices is too large, the information is not readily available.

(c) No such projections are made. The same cannot possibly be made as the workload does not fluctuate on any predictable pattern.

(d) The Government has been taking action for filling up vacancies annually as per the procedure laid down in this behalf by the Department of Personnel & Training, who are the nodal Department.

(e) As the rate of increase/decrease of workload varies from office to office depending upon various local